

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been cancelled and new claims 9-13 have been added. Reexamination and reconsideration of claims 9-13 are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claim 1 was rejected based on double patenting and obvious-type double patenting grounds, as well as for allegedly being obvious over Kirtley (U.S. 3,999,093) or Ross (U.S. 2,774,000) in view of the ordinary level of skill in the art. In view of the cancellation of claim 1 and its replacement with a new set of claims 9-13, Applicants respectfully submit the above rejections are moot.

Moreover, Applicants new independent claim 9 defines a rotary electric machine comprised of a stator and a rotor. The rotary electric machine includes a rotor core having a plurality of permanent magnets arranged opposite a gap between the stator and the rotor along a circumferential direction of the rotor core. Each of a plurality of rotor yokes forms a magnetic path for conducting magnetic flux from a permanent magnet. The rotor core is divided in the circumferential direction into several units, each unit includes a plurality of magnetic poles and permanent magnets along with the rotor yokes opposite thereto.

By contrast, neither Kirtley nor Ross anticipate or render obvious Applicants new claim 9. Moreover, claims 10-13 further define the features of the rotary electric machine, including the precise locations along which the rotor core is divided (claims 2 and 3) as well as the type of rotary electric machine being one having an outer rotor (claim 4). Hence, these claims are also submitted to be patentable over the prior art of record.


For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit claims 9-13 are now in condition for allowance. An early notice to that effect is solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #381NP/48224CO).

Respectfully submitted,

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